

Executive Summary

The State of Arizona's Nogales Port of Entry (POE) is faced with a growing number of commercial vehicles entering the facility, more stringent security requirements, and the need for facility inspectors to readily collect, examine, and exchange data for the vehicles and drivers entering the Port. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies are a vital tool in helping to solve this problem. ITS can simplify the task of separating high-risk from low-risk motor carriers and shipments. Advanced knowledge about the driver, shipment, and carrier allows the authorities to make a quick assessment of the risk involved in permitting entry into the United States. Advanced information exchanged in a timely, cost-effective, and secure manner allows enforcement agencies to conduct their risk assessments and determine which carriers, vehicles, and drivers need to be inspected.

In order to identify the technologies most appropriate in supporting a connectivity between the vehicles, the roadside, and the administrative office process and systems, this research includes canvassing of the literature related to ITS, Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) and Commercial Vehicle Information Systems Network (CVISN).

The Safety Information Exchange Needs Assessment literature review examines literature regarding existing CVISN planning documents, ITS technologies, and implementation literature and POE issues.

Among the more significant lessons learned—not only through the border systems FOTs (Field Operational Test), but across the spectrum with regard to ITS/CVO—has been that technology implementation alone does not guarantee success.

This issue underscores the importance of understanding the operational and institutional constraints and requirements at each specific border site. The best source for this information is the body of stakeholders that routinely engage in activities at a specific crossing.

The implementation plan consists of developing and installing a CVO system using ITS technology at the Nogales International Border POE.

The proposed system will use a system architecture developed as part the FHWA's ongoing CVISN initiative, the FHWA's International Border Clearance (IBC) architecture, the U.S. Custom's Automated Manifest System (AMS), and the ADOT's Expedited Processing at International Crossings (EPIC) project.

The deployment will use proven technology and will be interoperable with federal CVO programs at other border crossings. This is the first phase of a multi-phase project.

